

OK TO ENTER: /JK/

07/15/2009

Docket No.: 12810-00318-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tim Jungkamp et al.

Confirmation No.: 4602

Serial No.: 10/586,500

Art Unit: 1626

Filed: 07/13/2006

Examiner: Joseph R. Kosack

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING DINITRILES

AF

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the Office Action dated March 3, 2009. In that Office Action all of pending Claims 11-26 were rejected as unpatentable over Walter. It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims and in particular parent Claim 11 are not obvious in view of Walter.

Walter teaches the hydrocyanation of nonconjugated ethylenically unsaturated organic compounds such as 3-pentenenitrile with hydrogen cyanide in the presence of monodentate zerovalent nickel phosphorous ligand complexes and zinc chloride as a promoter leading to adiponitrile and methylglutarodinitrile. The monodentate zerovalent nickel phosphorous ligand complexes are extracted with cyclohexane from the reaction mixture and cyclohexane is evaporated by distillation.

The distillative recovery of the reaction product after separation of the hydrocyanation catalyst, as defined in parent Claim 11 (steps b, e, f, g and h) is not described in Walter.